



**Minutes of Meeting**  
**CITIZENS' EFFICIENCY COMMISSION**  
**July 13, 2016**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Citizens' Efficiency Commissioners**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Larry Bomke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jackie Newman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Josh Collins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Plunk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Dorsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	J.D. Sudeth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Karen Hasara	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Wesley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Murphy		

**Others**

Norm Sims – SSCRPC  
Molly Berns – SSCRPC  
Gail Weiskopf – SSCRPC

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Mike Murphy called the meeting of the Citizens' Efficiency Commission to order.

**II. ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCES**

All commissioners were in attendance.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Murphy asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 1, 2016, regular meeting. Mr. Robert Wesley moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Robert Plunk seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

**IV. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No introductions or announcements were given.

**V. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

Chair Murphy reported that Hon. Karen Hasara and he had met with County Board chair, Andy Van Meter and Mr. Brian McFadden. There was discussion about the term for the current Citizen Efficiency Commission expiring April 2017. Since there will not be an election between now and April 2017, it is likely that the county board may propose a resolution to extend the current commissioners terms for one more year.

**VI. REPORT OF STATUS OF PROPOSED REFERENDUMS**

Chair Murphy stated that two staff members from the State Attorney's office also attended the meeting with County Board Chair, Andy Van Meter and Mr. Brian McFadden. They gave opinions on how the referendums should be written and what should be said in each referendum. They provided some very interesting information on townships and fire protection districts, and how the statutes read and what can, and cannot be done.



The commissioners shared their opinions regarding the purposed language for the referendums. After much discussion the group agreed to vote on each of the referendums because of conflicting opinion as to which options should be again forwarded to the county board office for further consideration.

Chair Murphy called for a motion to vote on the first referendum: “Shall the office of the township collector position be abolished in Sangamon County with the duties to be assumed by the County Treasurer?” Sen. Larry Bomke made a motion to approve. Ms. Jackie Newman seconded the motion. Chair Murphy asked for discussion. There was clarification that this referendum is advisory in nature. The group reiterated that tackling too much and not gaining a win would be a fail. After the discussion Chair Murphy called for a vote to approve the first referendum. Mr. Wesley stated he didn’t think there was anything wrong with the referendum, he said the CEC was “pumped-up” the last time and convinced that was the route to go, and it seems like the CEC got talked out of it in some way or another. And he does not like it. Related to the wording; he doesn’t know how he could disagree with the wording of that referendum, but he wants the minutes to note that he is very disappointed that “the CEC lost heart over the past month”. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Chair Murphy called for a motion to vote on the second referendum: “Shall the Sangamon County Board have the authority to change the boundaries of fire protection districts with the approval of the voters?” Hon. Karen Hasara made a motion to approve. Dr. Kevin Dorsey seconded the motion. Chair Murphy asked for discussion. There was clarification that the process for the fire protection districts would be similar to the process for the townships. The group reiterated that by the Sangamon County Board making the changes to the boundaries; it would eliminate the need of having 26 individual referendums, and simplify the process. After the discussion Chair Murphy called for a vote to approve the second referendum. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Chair Murphy called for a motion to vote on the third referendum: “Shall all fire protection district trustees be elected rather than appointed?” Mr. J.D. Sudeth made a motion to approve. Mr. Josh Collins seconded the motion. Chair Murphy asked for discussion. There being no discussion, Chair Murphy called for a vote to approve the third referendum. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Chair Murphy reiterated that these proposed referendums would be forwarded to the county board office for consideration.

Chair Murphy opened the floor for discussion of why these referendums need to be passed. Commissioners cited the following reasons:

1. Thomas K. Cavanagh, Sangamon County Treasurer’s Letter to Township Supervisors, Trustees and Collectors dated, June 19, 2015.
2. Sangamon County is 1 of 4 counties that have any collectors.
3. Sangamon County Collector & Assessors data: There was discussion about the salaries of collectors and that some townships do not have a collector. It was noted that Mr. Dick Treat, Chatham Township Supervisor stated at the March 3, 2016 meeting that Chatham does not have a tax collector due to a vacancy.
4. Fire/EMS Talking Points April 13, 2016.

Mr. Norm Sims suggested that the group work on what the campaign to educate voters about the referendums will be and how it will be organized. Some of the commissioners have experience with campaigning. There will need to be a plan for press-releases and radio spots. The responses for who, when, and how will need to be ready for those working the campaign.

Hon. Karen Hasara stated the first-term commissioners could help with getting the word out and could campaign if they would volunteer. She also noted that the Developing Legislative Linkages task force will meet before the next meeting to discuss logistics and what happens should take place after county board action. The taskforce will take care of the strategy planning for the campaign.

The next meeting of the County Board will be at 7:00 P.M. Tuesday, August 9, 2016. Caucuses begin at 6:00 P.M. It was suggested that members of the CEC be in attendance to brief county board members and answer questions from the press if needed.

Chair Murphy called for a motion to change the CEC's next meeting date to Aug 3, 2016. Mr. Collins made a motion to approve. Sen. Bomke seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Chair Murphy noted that at the next meeting there will be a discussion about possible talking (bullet) points related to the referendums. Discussion also occurred about converting, Thomas K. Cavanagh, Sangamon County Treasurer's Letter to bullet points. Chair Murphy asked commissioners to send collective wisdom to Molly by email about key bullet points.

## **VII. DISCUSSION OF TASKFORCE WORK PLANS**

### **A. Regional Leadership Council as Strategic Partner - Higher Ed Institutions as Strategic Partner – Robert Plunk & Jackie Newman**

Mr. Plunk noted that the next meeting for the RLC mayors will be July 27th, from 5:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. in the County Board Chamber. Mr. Plunk reported that he had spoken with Mayor Brian Cuffle, Chair of the RLC. He said that Mayor Cuffle was struggling with moving forward with the council and even questioning whether they need to have quarterly meetings. Mayor Cuffle thought having semi-annual meetings would be sufficient. Mr. Plunk cautioned him on that and plans to consult Mayor Cuffle in the future.

### **B. Sewer Transfer Study – Dr. Kevin Dorsey & Chair Murphy**

No report given.

### **C. Developing Legislative Linkages - Hon. Karen Hasara & Sen. Larry Bomke**

See discussion under Section VI. Report of Status of Proposed Referendums.

### **D. Developing Linkages with Townships - J.D. Sudeth & Chair Murphy**

See discussion under Section VI. Report of Status of Proposed Referendums.

### **E. Developing Linkages with Fire/EMS – Robert Plunk & Robert Wesley**

Mr. Plunk reported that he had spoken with Mayor Yokley. After their discussion about having a subcommittee meeting, Mr. Yokley indicated that there would be no need to have any additional meetings. Mr. Plunk noted that he had heard, Mr. Randy Burge, a trustee from Sherman, is taking steps to organize an association.



**F. Create Network of Business Leaders - J.D. Sudeth & Josh Collins**

No report given.

**G. Regional Policing Study – Hon. Karen Hasara & Sen. Larry Bomke**

No report given.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- A.** Next Meeting Date – August 3, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Sangamon County Building in Room 204.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Mike Murphy asked if there were any further comments. There being none, he called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Kevin Dorsey motioned to adjourn. Mr. Josh Collins seconded the motion. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Weiskopf  
Acting as Recording Secretary